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CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, Aug. 17, 1878.

LITERARY CONVENTION.

In pursuance of our vocation as a literary journal, we hasten to place before our readers the results of the International Literary Congress, which met for the first time on the 11th June last, at Paris, and which sat for three weeks. The following resolutions were put forth:—

I. The right of the author over his work is not a legal concession, but one of the modes of property which the Legislature is bound to guarantee.

II. Literary property is perpetual in the author, and in his heirs or assigns.

III. After the expiry of the author's rights, as determined by the laws actually obtaining in different countries, every person will be free to reproduce his works on the condition of paying a certain sum to his heirs or assigns.

IV. Literary, scientific or artistic works will be treated in each country as if they had been first produced in that country. The same rules will apply to the representation of dramatic and musical works.

V. To obtain the above protection, it will be sufficient for the author to go through the customary formalities of the country in which his works are first brought out.

VI. With regard to translation and adaptation, the Congress expresses a hope that international treaties will secure for authors the exclusive right of authorizing the adaptation or translation of their works.

VII. The Congress is of opinion that the amelioration of the moral and material condition of Literary men is indissolubly connected with the establishment or development of societies having for their object the protection of the rights of authors and the creation of a fund for relief and pensions.

Further the Congress expressed a hope that the question of a literary advance fund might be studied, and included in the programme of the next International Congress.

Lastly, it has approved the project of founding an International Literary Association, open to the literary societies and writers of all nations.

At a general meeting of the Congress, Mr. BLANCHARD JERROLD submitted the following resolutions, which were adopted unanimously, and referred to the bureau of the International Literary Society to be carried out:

I. That the members of the International Committee in their respective countries form societies on the plan of the Société des Gens de Lettres de France.

II. That in each country there be a corresponding member of the International Committee, through whom all communications between the said Committee and his nation shall pass, and whose duty it will be to keep the said Committee informed on all subjects of interest to the great Republic of letters.

III. That the members of the International Committee endeavour to establish an exchange of books between their respective countries, by which libraries of modern literature may be gradually formed in the great capitals of the world for the use of

men of letters; each Société des Gens de Lettres will be kept *au courant* of the literary activity of the world, and reproduction, translation, and negotiation for the purchase of copyrights will be facilitated.

IV. That the headquarters of the International Committee be at the offices of the Société des Gens de Lettres de France.

V. That the next International Congress, to report on the work which the members of the International Committee have done in the year, in furtherance of the resolutions of the Congress of 1878, be held in London in June, 1879.

The French Executive Committee of the International Literary Society are now at work upon its constitution, and are receiving from the foreign delegates who have returned to their respective countries the names of honorary and working members. In the first list of the Honorary Committee, drawn up hastily at the closing meeting of the Congress, are the names of VICTOR HUGO (President), BARON TAYLOR, JULES SIMON, IVAN TURGENIEF, EDWARD JENKINS, member of Parliament, (member of the English Royal Copyright Commission); BERTHOLD AUERBACH, EMILIO CASTELAR, MENDES-LÉAL, MAURO-MACCHI (Italian Deputy), DR. LAVELAYE, EDMOND ABOUT, TORRES-CICEDO, &c.

The duty to form a committee to act in England in connection with the International Committee, and to lay the foundation of an English society on the basis of the Société des Gens de Lettres de France, is intrusted to Messrs. BLANCHARD JERROLD and EDWARD JENKINS. We throw out the hint at once, with the intention of elaborating it later, that a Canadian Literary Society should be formed upon this basis and enter into relations with the International Bureau.

OUR MILITARY SYSTEM.

Very lamentable events have, within the past two or three months, drawn general attention to the means with which our Provincial and Federal Governments are endowed for the repression of public disorder, and to the uses to which our militia have been perforce destined. The labour riots in Quebec and the threatened disturbance of the 12th July in Montreal, have shown clearly that, in connection with them, there is a vast amount of uncertainty, a certain conflict of authority arising out of ill-defined notions of jurisdiction, and especially an enormous outlay quite disproportioned to the work required and altogether inconsistent with the weak condition of municipal and governmental exchequers. In the case of Quebec the amount involved in the calling of the Montreal volunteers was so great that, in order to insure its prompt payment, the Provincial Government had to strain a point and advance the money. In the case of Montreal, the money still remains unpaid, with the chances that when the day of settlement comes, it will provoke a much more acrimonious debate than on any other previous occasion.

In Great Britain the volunteers are never called upon to do police duty. This is reserved for what is properly called the militia and for the regulars. And there appears to be good reason for this when we reflect on the composition of our volunteer corps and the intimate relations—social, commercial, religious and political—of its members with the different classes of society. It is a hardship for these men, and particularly so for the officers, to have to come into hostile contact with those upon whom, in many cases, their future as public men may depend. To obviate this inconvenience—which becomes greater as events increase in importance—it might be worth while to consider the propriety of petitioning the Home Government for at least one regiment of regulars to be stationed in the Upper Provinces. The headquarters of such a body might be at Quebec, with a company or two stationed at St. Helen's Island and a company or two kept at Kingston. These points,

being on lines of communication by rail and boat, could be communicated with at once, and as many troops as would be required could be concentrated at a given seat of disturbance within the Dominion in twenty-four hours. It needs not to be said that one regiment of British troops would be amply sufficient for all purposes of repression, especially in the initial stages of disorder. The present would be a proper time and our recent unfortunate experiences a proper pretext for making a move in that direction. The Government of Lord BEACONSFIELD are favourable to a closer union of the Colonies with the Empire, and there is no more living link of such union than the presence of British soldiers in our midst. The advent of a new Governor-General would doubtless add to our chances of success. The event too, if brought to a favourable result, would tend powerfully to infuse a new military spirit in our volunteers, which would be all the more gratifying that, at no time since the passage of the Militia Act, have there been so much energy, enthusiasm and constructive cohesion as are at present evinced by all grades of our citizen soldiery. The matter is worthy of attention, and we may have an opportunity of returning to it.

ITALIA IRREDENTA.

The Italians, like the French, are fond of political catch-words. The latest, growing out of the results of the Treaty of Berlin, is that which heads our present article. Its literal meaning is "Italy unredeemed," and its scope is the ambition to recover the last remnants of Italian territory still remaining in the hands of the stranger. These remnants are the Trentino or Valley of the Trent, and the country around Trieste. The feeling of those who raise the cry referred to is that so long as these possessions are not restored, Italy is still unredeemed from foreign domination, and GIOBERTI'S dream of an united and free peninsula *dall'Alpi al mare* remains unfulfilled. For a couple of weeks after the signing of the Berlin Treaty, there was much popular agitation on this subject in the larger cities of Italy, especially those of the North, such as Venice, Milan and Genoa, which have naturally closer relations with the inhabitants of the Trent and of Trieste. But what gave the movement an international significance was a monster meeting at Rome, where inflammatory speeches were made, aggressive resolutions passed and whence the crowd surged toward the Austrian Embassy with shouts and songs of an offensive character. The incident gave rise to an interchange of notes between the Quirinal and Schönbrunn which has proved satisfactory in so far as the Italian Government, while declaring its maintenance of the right of public meetings, disclaimed any sympathy with that of the Argentina Theatre. The consequence is that Austria has taken no further notice of the demonstration and that the agitators themselves have ceased to put their Government in a false position.

The movement, however, is one which, although at present ill-timed, owing to the peculiar circumstances of Europe and the delicate nature of the whole Eastern Question, rendered now more complicated, perhaps, than it was before, is still fraught with a vitality which must, sooner or later, lead to a rectification of the Southern Austrian frontier and a peremptory claim on the part of Italy for the possession of the Rhetian and Julian Alps. The recovery of Trieste will be a more difficult problem, owing to its separation from the mainland of Italy by the Adriatic, and other geographical causes. But so long as Austria occupies Bosnia and the Herzegovina, there is no doubt that the jealousy of the Italians will be kept alive, and their desire for compensation in Trieste and even in Albania will be made the lever of some or other political party.

Although less pronounced, the displeasure of the Italians at the British oc-

cupation of Cyprus has been marked and, we may add, it is very natural. Apart from political or even commercial considerations, there are historical memories connected with the beautiful island of Venus which render it dear to the Venetians, the Genoese, and the votaries of the House of Savoy, and would cause them to resent what they regard as the ignoble barter of the doubly classic land. This sentiment of regret must, however, prove ephemeral in view of the material prosperity which the island itself will reap from its change of masters, and it is to be hoped that the cannon of Famagousta, stamped with the names of the Italian founders, will never be turned against Italian ships in the roadstead, nor that the rocks over which the Red Cross now waves will ever be the scene of such bloodshed as we read of when René's standard fluttered there.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

SKETCHES FROM NATURE.—Our front page this week is very appropriate to the season. The abstract question of fisheries is always interesting from a commercial point of view, but the pastime of fishing, in all its aspects, is particularly attractive during this summer season when so many hundreds flee from the dust and turmoil of the city to seek health and recreation on the shingle of the sea-shore, in the depths of the wood, or beside the cool lakes and streams where the waters teem with abundance of the finny tribe. Our special artist has reproduced many of these pleasant scenes. The bits of landscape which he also introduces serve as so many pretty frames to pictures of rural enjoyment. These sketches will prove an agreeable souvenir to many who have themselves taken part in them, while to the scores who, like ourselves, have been obliged to remain in the city during the whole of the sweltering summer, they will procure at least "the pleasures of the imagination."

LORD BEACONSFIELD'S RETURN.—The arrival of the Earl of Beaconsfield in London from Berlin was greeted with a popular ovation. The Prime Minister, with the Marquis of Salisbury and Lady Salisbury, landed at Dover from the double-hulled steamboat "Calais-Douvres," received an address from the Dover Mayor and Corporation, and one from the Dover Constitutional Association, and proceeded to London by special train. The Charing-cross terminus was magnificently decorated for the occasion. The flags of all the great European Powers, with the Union Jack in the centre rising highest, were arranged over the entrance archway, both inside and outside of the station. The arrival platform, and the opposite platform on which seats were ranged for the company of privileged spectators, were adorned with about ten thousand plants of various kinds. Palms and ferns were placed at the base, with geraniums, fuschias, calceolarias, and other bright flowers; beds of green lycopods, with taller plants rising from their midst, and a profusion of roses trained up the lamp-posts and pillars, or festooned across, which had a beautiful effect. The special train from Dover came in about ten or twelve minutes before five. Its arrival was awaited by the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of London, wearing their robes and badges of office, and by a large assembly of ladies and gentlemen of rank, including several of the Cabinet Ministers, the Dukes of Northumberland, Sutherland, Abercorn, and Beaufort, many peers and members of Parliament, with their wives and daughters. Lord Henry Lennox acted as marshal of the reception; and the Marchioness of Abergavenny, with Lady Northcote, wife of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Stafford Northcote, M.P., personally took care of Lord Beaconsfield as soon as he had received the official greeting from the Lord Mayor. The Prime Minister was dressed in a white overcoat, and seemed not more fatigued than most men of his age would be after a long journey on a hot summer day. He was kept some time shaking hands with his numerous friends. Among those who first approached him were Lady Burdett-Coutts and the aged Sir Moses Montefiore, who blessed him for the provision made by the late Congress to ensure better treatment of the Jews in Servia and Roumania. There was a good deal of cheering, waving of hats and handkerchiefs and fans as his Lordship, with the Marquis of Salisbury, Lady Abergavenny, and Lady Northcote, entered the carriage which was to convey them to Downing-street. This was Lady Abergavenny's own carriage, and it was followed by others, a brougham conveying Mr. Montagu Corry and Mr. P. Currie, private secretaries, having charge of the Treaty just concluded, and two carriages with Lady Salisbury and her family. There was an immense throng of people outside the Charing-cross station, in West Strand, Trafalgar-square, and Whitehall; and the windows, balconies, and house-tops were occupied by hundreds of spectators. The Premier and the Foreign Secretary were enthusiastically cheered as they passed round to Whitehall. At the fronts of the Admiralty, the Horse Guards, the Home Office, and the Colonial and India Offices, in Whitehall, and the Foreign Office in Downing-street, many of the gentlemen employed in those Government departments turned out